



**MECKLENBURG COUNTY**  
Park and Recreation Department

MEMORANDUM

SENT ELECTRONICALLY THIS DATE

NO HARDCOPY TO FOLLOW

**TO:** Tim Manes,  
Charlotte Mecklenburg Planning Commission

**FROM:** Joe Mangum, Greenway Planner  
Greenway Planning & Development Division

**DATE:** November 23, 2009

**RE:** Rezoning Petition # 2009-074 (6.19 acres at the corner of West 6th St. and North Sycamore St.)

This is the third correspondence (8/20/09, 9/28/09) from Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation (MCPR) regarding rezoning petition #2009-074. We suggest that these comments be incorporated into the Planning Commission staff review notes and written into the Pre-Hearing Staff Analysis to the fullest extent possible. These steps should ensure MCPR's notes are conveyed to and incorporated by the petitioner during plan revision.

The properties referenced in this petition are located in the Central Park Region and include Ray's Splash Planet, a water park owned and operated by MCPR, and a developed section of Irwin Creek Greenway. The proposed rezoning would create a significant impact to both the greenway and Ray's Splash Planet. MCPR has met with the petitioner previously and has expressed some concerns over the proposed development

**Greenway**

MCPR notes the "10' wide HC accessible ramp for access to greenway" as shown on the 11/12/09 revised plan near the plaza area. However, MCPR maintains its request for the extension of this 10' wide greenway connection to the front entrance of Ray's Splash Planet, a major destination along Irwin Creek Greenway. In correspondence from the petitioner dated 10/16/09, they stated that a 6' wide sidewalk would be provided. This represents a reduction from the current greenway width and is

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insufficient. Although some greenway users might migrate through the “improved green area”, the majority will be focused on reaching their destination at Ray’s and appropriate accommodations that match the existing trail width are required. Please illustrate a 10’ wide greenway connection following a more direct route from the HC accessible ramp to the service road crossing near the front of Ray’s.

### **Ray’s Splash Planet**

Comments regarding Ray’s Splash Planet have been communicated directly to the petitioner.

Feel free to contact me at (704) 353-1911 if you should have any further questions.

Copy to: James R. Garges, Director  
Julie Clark, Division Director, Greenway Planning & Development  
W. Lee Jones, Division Director, Capital Planning  
Blaine Gregory, Senior Planner, Capital Planning  
Steve Law, Property Management Coordinator, Real Estate Services  
Brian Conroy, Park Planner, Central Park Region, Capital Planning  
Jason Pauling, Senior Planner, Greenway Planning & Development  
James Alsop, Division Director, Enterprise Services  
Dennis LaCaria, Facilities Planning & Real Estate, Charlotte-Mecklenburg School  
Genni Reel, Facility Manager II, Ray’s Splash Planet

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